1 And I would also say that five days' 2 notice is way too much time. I think the FCC 3 needs to take a lead from FEMA and give only 15 4 minutes notice. 5 (Applause.) And that way instead of 6 MR. WARD: 7 having 1000 people here, we'd only have FCC staff people who would be able to ask very softball 8 9 It's clear you don't want many people auestions. 10 here, and I think that's a great thing. 11 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mr. Ward, your 12 time is up. 13 Douglas Schueler. 14 (Applause.) 15 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Matt Fuller. 16 MR. FULLER: Thank you. I wanted to talk for a moment about 17 youth culture. Youth culture may bring to mind 18 for some the idea of fads, fashion trends, teen 19 20 movies, idols, products and brands popularized on 21 I like to define youth culture, the young. though, as those elements and avenues that allow 22

our children to define themselves as unique individuals capable of making a mark and a difference in this world.

For me the avenue that opened this up was punk rock and local music. Without it I can assure you I would not be alive today. Like so many disaffected children, I was wilting. And I realized in the stagnancy of suburban strip mall, mass marketed America, our eyes are diverted from great and wonderful things being created geographically near us and pushed toward distant and vaulted farces.

This national, homogenous, corporate culture, increasingly foreign, bland, uninspiring and most importantly, unattainable and inapplicable to most lives.

But I was saved by a documented doorway that opened up for a whole generation a world of vibrancy and vitality that existed for many of us in the Northwest in our own backyard. This locally created art and culture inspired me, made me an artist and found a community for me to

flourish in and call home.

I consider myself blessed and saved by my local culture so much so that I've spent the last ten years as a strong advocate and promoter of local all-ages music in my community, from being a DJ to being a journalist to putting on shows. I wanted to share the gift I was given by helping expose our youth to these colorful, exciting alternatives to the drab corporate culture pushed on our public airwaves in the mainstream media.

We, and most importantly our children, live in an ever increasingly scary, disconnected America, and it is only the warmth and nearness of our fellow human beings, our neighbors and communities that will give us the strength to survive and flourish in these times. The survival is dependent upon an awareness and appreciation of those in our communities that can only be provided through open communication and dialogue.

It is yours and our duty to insure

1	that these public channels remain open, obvious
2	and
3	MODERATOR SIGALOS: I'm sorry. Your
4	time is up.
5	MR. FULLER: of all people,
6	especially our young.
7	(Applause.)
8	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Jennifer Stock.
9	Sidney Stock. Jennifer.
10	MS. STOCK: My name is Jennifer Stock,
11	and I didn't know what I was going to say when I
12	came here tonight. I didn't even know if I was
13	going to say anything. I didn't really
14	understand what it's all about, and I have to say
15	I'm quite shocked that we have to have so many
16	people here begging you to give us what is our
17	right.
18	(Applause.)
19	MS. STOCK: I obviously didn't start
20	out life in this country, and I've traveled quite
21	a bit in my life and been exposed to quite a lot
22	of media. And I'm finding more and more living in

1	this country that I have to look outside the
2	United States to find out what is going on. As I
3	travel and I come back, I find out that the
4	things that I've heard and the things that I've
5	seen in other countries are not known here.
6	In France this summer I watched the
7	Iraqi War in a way that I have never seen it in
8	this country. I saw the reality, not what
9	everybody wants us to see. And I don't
10	understand if I don't actually understand what
11	your role is, but I assume that we're paying you
12	and it's about public service.
13	(Applause.)
14	MS. STOCK: So I would ask you to
15	think very carefully about what you've heard in
16	these six cities, wonder why you haven't been to
17	more, and how the rest of the country is going to
18	get through to you what we've tried to get
19	through to you today.
20	Thank you.
21	(Applause.)
22	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Sidney Stock.

1 MR. I've been very pleased STOCK: with the eloquent statements of the speakers and 2 the rational statements that they've made, and I 3 contrast that with the pathetic statement in the 4 Seattle Times of Mark Allen, the President and 5 the Washington State Association of 6 CEO of 7 Broadcasters. first justification for 8 His consolidation was that they contribute -- that 9 broadcasters will contribute to charities. 10 11 (Laughter.) MR. STOCK: I don't think that it's 12 make a whole hell of a lot of 13 going to difference because you already know that 99 14 percent of the people in the country are against 15 16 it. The people who spoke know a lot more 17 about media consolidation than I do, but I know 18 19 something about how the government works, and I make assumptions that you come -- that 20 lobbyists or that you come from the broadcasting 21

industry and that you take pay cuts to take these

T	positions, and it's not because of your
2	dedication. When you leave the FCC you will be
3	very well rewarded for your service to the
4	corporations.
5	But I would remind you that you are
6	humans like I am, and your children will be
7	affected and are being affected in the same way
8	that these young people eloquently spoke of. And
9	your children breathe the same air and drink the
10	same water that the Bush administration is
11	determined, for profit reasons, to destroy our
12	environment.
13	And again, I remind you, you are
14	humans as we are and don't continue to represent
15	the interests of profit against people.
16	(Applause.)
17	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Shirley Morrison.
18	Terry Sullivan. Are you Terry Sullivan?
19	MR. SULLIVAN: Yes, I am.
20	MODERATOR SIGALOS: You have two
21	minutes, Terry.
22	MR. SULLIVAN: Thank you for letting

me speak tonight.

My name is Terry Sullivan, and I'm with Washington Public Campaigns, which is a group here that is trying to get a public campaign financing law passed in Washington state. And the thing that inspired me to do that is also what brought me here tonight; and that is the undue influence of corporate special interests in all aspects of our society.

You know we have a hard time getting media coverage, but I digress. I'm increasingly concerned about corporate dominance in all aspects of our society. Corporations exist only to make profits. Rather than promote democracy and equality in our country and the world, corporate dominance has led to the increasing concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the very few.

We're easily bought off with cheap goods, which keep us largely complacent and willing to make the sacrifices that our world requires. The very important part of the

1	corporate plan is control of the media. By
2	mitigating against an informed and concerned
3	public, by providing bread and circuses, instead
4	of in depth coverage of important issues, our
5	media today is starting to produce a malleable,
6	misinformed, and ill-equipped public.
7	(Applause.)
8	MR. SULLIVAN: The job of government
9	is not to appease the public's whims, but it's to
10	carry out what we know is our enlightened
11	long-term best interest. We as individuals don't
12	always like going along with what we know we have
13	to do. We don't like paying taxes or limiting
14	our personal freedoms for the greater good. We
15	expect the government to enforce laws that we
16	know will serve us well in the long term.
17	Today's commercial media panders to
18	our lowest instincts, encourages us to ignore our
19	problems. It seems

MR. SULLIVAN: -- it simply wants us

MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mr. Sullivan, your

time is up.

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1	to shop and be happy.
2	(Applause.)
3	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Are you Shirley
4	Morrison?
5	MS. MORRISON: I am.
6	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Shirley, you have
7	two minutes.
8	MS. MORRISON: Thank you.
9	(Applause.)
10	MS. MORRISON: You can see the media
11	does know who we are. We are a few of the
12	Seattle Raging Grannies.
13	(Applause.)
14	MS. MORRISON: This letter is to the
15	Federal Communication Commission, all seven of
16	you, please.
17	The Seattle Raging Grannies are
18	opposed to media consolidation and control over
19	the print media and over the airwaves, which
20	belong to the people of the United States.
21	(Applause.)
22	MS. MORRISON: Such consolidation

1	brings us thought control, and education of
2	ourselves and our children and grandchildren
3	towards violence, fear, mediocrity and slanted
4	information, and often no local information at
5	all.
6	We've written this song to express our
7	thoughts about the current media consolidation in
8	the hands of six giants of television, radio, and
9	newspapers and the possibility of worsening the
10	situation even more.
11	(Raging Grannies sing the following.)
12	Some think the world belongs to
13	corporations, but not to us, and not to us. Some
14	think it well to merge all information by
15	thoughtless clones in solemn tones, but we, we'd
16	like to hear more human voices and creation. We
17	think they want limit all our choices to selling
18	cars and pushing wars. Harken, harken, we need
19	real debate. The Commission
20	(Inaudible due to audience clapping.)
21	(Applause.)
22	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Raging

T	Grans.
2	John Brown?
3	MR. BROWN: I'm here.
4	MODERATOR SIGALOS: You're No. 82,
5	John Brown, and you have two minutes.
6	MR. BROWN: Okay. I heard the
7	question about why were these men here and who
8	were they working for, and I had assumed that
9	they were working for the people. And perhaps
10	that's true, and perhaps we should have all been
11	born incorporated, too.
12	A lot of times you can tell what's
13	going on by the faces that you don't see. I
14	watched, or actually listened to I'm sorry
15	a Tavis Smiley Show where he had the Republican
16	candidates for President on. He had none of the
17	three frontrunners. I suppose it was a generally
18	black and minority audience, and they were going
19	to face some questions that they'd probably
20	prefer not to answer. You're fortunate that
21	vou've don't have to talk back, I guess.

At any rate, it's really instructive

from Clear Channel. There's nobody here from Disney, a number of major players who will let you take their flack for them, I guess, because that's how it appears to work.

And as far as technical issues, really concerned about your unwillingness support the micro stations, especially micro FM local. Around here when we get a big earthquake, and not if, when, having a lot of little stations in the neighborhoods is going to be a lot more valuable to the people than hoping to be able to whose towers came down count big guys somewhere, maybe on Vashon Island. The station on Vashon Island that operates -- that would like to operate as a micro FM station would be on the air because that kind of know-how is there in the community. They'd be able to jerry-rig something and make it work.

Thanks.

MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Mr. Brown.

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1 Jason Tyler. James Goodman. 2 Hey, thanks for coming MR. GOODMAN: to speak with us and letting us speak to you. 3 So we spend a lot of time in our 4 5 culture and when we're educating our children and 6 talking about the freedom of press and how 7 important that is for a thriving democracy and to 8 everybody's views represented in the public But if we auction off to the highest 9 sphere. 1.0 bidder, then the press is inherently unfree and cannot be free if it's funded by only the super 11 further media 12 and incorporation rich 13 conglomeration is going to impact us negatively as a people on that front. 1.4 So here we are at the FCC hearing on 15 16 media ownership, and it seems like there's only 17 one thing that we're hearing. I guess there were six people, four of which were on your panel, 18 talking about maybe -- not in opposition to media 1.9 20 ownership.

we're hearing from everyone here is no to media

seems

But it

21

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like everything that

1	conglomeration. So I think that's the message
2	that I'd like you guys to take home having heard
3	from us at this hearing. It seems like
4	everything you've heard is no.
5	Thank you.
6	(Applause.)
7	MODERATOR SIGALOS: George Robertson.
8	MR. ROBERTSON: Welcome to media
9	monopoly whack-a-mole.
10	For everyone who stood up here and
1.1	said that our multi-station concentration funded
12	some list of good qualities, I just want to add
13	the words: And silenced whatever other voice
14	would have used that channel to reach that same
15	community.
16	I want to speak to the majority
17	members of this Commission directly here. I
18	think history shows us that whenever some group
19	in society wants to consolidate indelible power,
20	there is always a group of men just like you who
21	enable that in a variety of ways. And just as

you did tonight, they always say they were

1	following orders.
2	And in the end when the corrosive
3	effects of the bad policies that they promote in
4	their ideological fervor finally fail, it's when
5	the troops won't shoot the people in order to
6	protect them anymore. That it's finally over.
7	And I don't know how close we'll get to that
8	before you come to your senses, but you are flat
9	out nuts.
10	(Applause.)
11	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Herbert Farber.
12	Kathleen Myers. Brian Johnson.
13	Are you Kathleen Myers?
14	I'd like to call the next ten names,
15	Kathleen, before you start and that is 90 through
16	99. Elden Ball, Wendi Lagerquist, Matthew
17	Pfeiffer, Gavin Dahl, Stephen Sharrett, Rhonda
18	Hue, Shaney Sales, David Bloom, Jim Joelson,
19	Julie Enevoldsen.
20	And now, Kathleen Myers, you have two
21	minutes.
22	MS. MYERS: Kathleen Myers.

Okay. Give them the benefit of the
doubt. Say the most commercially successful in
the business of communication have profit making
and perspective and are not wholly geared to the
interest of advertisers, indeed may not be good
indeed that they care that what's good for the
sponsors may not be good for the country, maybe
even dangerous to individuals, that they really
care as we all do about that they the most
commercially successful really care as we all do
about participatory democracy, about public
education, about freedom of speech, that hold
dear the Bill of Rights because it protects
against what John Stewart Mill called "the
tyranny of the prevailing opinion and feeling."

The more media we want and need the benefit of experience of history. We want the whole story, the long story, the many sides of the story. We want the lively conversation. We don't want to go off to war on false pretenses or jeopardize the livelihoods of some for the benefit of the few.

1	Now, the most commercially successful
2	in the business of communication are not tyrants.
3	Just a minute. Frederick Douglas said, "The
4	right to ones thoughts and opinions is the dread
5	of tyrants. It is the right which they first of
6	all strike down."
7	Now, the most commercially successful
8	in the business of communication are not tyrants.
9	In the admittedly unlikely circumstances a few
10	would limit view points or stifle dissent,
11	though, it behooves us to keep ownership as
12	diverse as possible for the sake of that they
13	could give cornerstone of democracy, equal
14	representation.
15	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Time's up, Ms.
16	Myers.
17	(Applause.)
18	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Brian Johnson.
19	MR. JOHNSON: My name is Brian. I
20	live in Portland. Since most of what I was
21	planning to say has already been said, I'd just
22	like to read some thoughts I've put down to paper

over the last three hours.

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We've heard some people in the industry describe the rules of media ownership as outdated. They say deregulation is necessary for them to compete with the internet. The fact that the internet is simply there isn't why more and more people are getting their news there. It's the media's own piss poor reporting that's driving people away.

(Applause.)

MR. JOHNSON: We do know, we do know that when media outlets merge the result is layoffs. And how does fewer reporters lead to more news?

(Applause.)

MR. JOHNSON: I don't want to hear about what's happening in my own community from the AP news wire as if they reported it in the first place.

The public interest is not merely what the public is interested in, despite what that fellow from the NAB said earlier.

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Maybe if these people would show a little bit more respect for the public, maybe if they had a little more pride in the journalistic roots, we wouldn't be fleeing for the internet desperate for a real source of news.

Commissioners, how can you expect an informed and diverse public to get involved in this democratic process when you only give us a few days notice? Are you even serious about this? It seems like you're just going through the motions to placate a growing opposition, and then you'll just vote to deregulate the media anyway, regardless of the overwhelming opposition at every hearing you've held.

(Applause.)

MR. JOHNSON: I don't know if I'm wasting my time by being here or not. It boggles the mind. I don't understand how you honestly think you're acting in the public interest or how you think you're being inclusive to those of us most affected by the proposed rule change when you only give us one week to get ready to be

1	here, especially when Senator Cantwell and
2	Congressman Inslee told you folks from Alaska,
3	Idaho, and Oregon wanted to attend and asked for
4	a reasonable amount of notice. What kind of
5	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mr. Johnson,
6	you're out of time.
7	MR. JOHNSON: you have.
8	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Roger Fulton.
9	(Applause.)
10	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Roger, you have
11	two minutes.
12	MR. FULTON: Thank you.
13	I am a news geek. I love current
14	events. I follow news in the print, broadcast,
15	and internet media.
16	As this country was about to invade
17	and occupy Iraq in 2003, I scoured the media for
18	objective truth regarding the wisdom of the
19	impending invasion. In my searching I was amazed
20	at the stories coming from two sources that were
21	so unlike those coming from elsewhere. In the
22	United States the newspaper chain Knight River,

1	now McClatchey Newspapers was
2	(Applause.)
3	MR. FULTON: work in their
4	investigative reporting that pointed out how
5	misguided an attack on Iraq would be. Outside
6	the U.S. the BBC provided similar coverage.
7	The mainstream media comprised of all
8	those media outlets which are now owned by such a
9	very, very small number of mega corporations had
10	one theme and one theme only in early 2003
11	Let's go to war.
12	How different that message might have
13	been if we had had true media diversity in this
14	country, if it were actually possible to hear a
15	wide variety of investigative analysis prior to
16	something as important as invading another
17	country.
18	Don't give me the line, Well, anyone
19	can go on the internet and see all these
20	different points of view. For a huge portion of
21	the hard working citizenry of this country there
22	is neither time nor energy to ferret out news

1	outside of the mainstream media.
2	We citizens should be able to turn on
3	our television at 6 p.m. and see a wide variety
4	of viewpoints and analysis. We citizens should
5	not have to be information research specialists
6	in order to be well informed.
7	(Applause.)
8	MR. FULTON: This is what is meant by
9	the public interest.
10	Don't tell me that market forces will
11	sort all this out. Market forces are concerned
12	about one thing and one thing only: Money,
13	profit. If everything were left to market forces
14	we would still have slavery and child labor in
15	this country because both practices were more
16	profitable.
17	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Your time is up.
18	MR. FULTON: for the public
19	interest.
20	Thank you.
21	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Are you Elden
22	Ball?

1	MR. BALL: Yes.
2	MODERATOR SIGALOS: You have two
3	minutes, Elden.
4	MR. BALL: Thank you.
5	The Federal Communication Commission
6	was established by Congress 75 or 80 years ago to
7	regulate the media in the public interest. I
8	don't hear any part of commercial or business
9	interests there. It's supposed to be the public
10	interest. Now, in order to do that, you have to
11	listen to the public. You have to have an open
12	mind. You can't ignore us. We are here.
13	If you want democracy to survive in
14	this country, we must have an informed public.
15	To have an informed public, we must have a free
16	press. We must have a diversity of interest so
17	that the word gets out. No more propaganda.
18	We've had too much of that. We need free speech.
19	We need an informed public, and if possible, then
20	we can have the survival of our democracy.
21	Do you really want to be ones who
22	destroy democracy in this country? Do you want

1	that for your legacy?
2	(Applause.)
3	MR. BALL: I hope not. I hope that
4	money doesn't mean that much to you. Now, if you
5	keep ignoring us, then the EPA is going to have
6	to declare investigative journalism an endangered
7	species.
8	Now do the right thing and protect the
9	public, not private interest.
10	(Applause.)
11	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Wendi Lagerquist.
12	Matthew Pfeiffer. Gavin Dahl.
13	Are you Gavin?
14	MR. PFEIFFER: I'm Matthew Pfeiffer.
15	MODERATOR SIGALOS: You're Matthew?
16	MR. PFEIFFER: Yeah.
17	MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mathhew Pfeiffer,
18	you have two minutes.
19	MR. PFEIFFER: Okay. Thank you.
20	My name is Matthew Pfeiffer. I'm a
21	local high school student attending Noble
22	Alternative High School. Four days ago I got to